

V. REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the non-final Office Action mailed on March 24, 2004. Reexamination in light of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 5-6 are currently pending in this application, with claim 1 being independent.

This amendment *prima facie* places the case in condition for allowance. Alternatively, it places this case in better condition for appeal. Accordingly, entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been added.

Allowable subject matter

Appreciation is expressed for the indication within the Advisory Action of June 8, 2004 that claim 4 contains allowable subject matter. Accordingly, the features of claim 4 have been wholly incorporated into claim 1 to place claim 4 into independent form. Thus, prior claim 4 is now amended claim 1. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

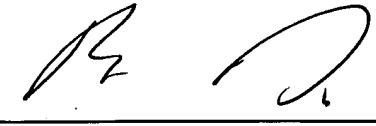
For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are allowable, and the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and remarks is courteously solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone Brian K. Dutton, Reg. No. 47,255, at 202-955-8753.

If any fee is required or any overpayment made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee or credit the overpayment to Deposit Account # 18-0013.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 24, 2004

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